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**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
JUDICIAL BRANCH**

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

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**Testimony of Stephen N. Ment
Insurance and Real Estate Committee Public Hearing
February 19, 2009**

Senate Bill 897, An Act Concerning Time Shares

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in regards to Senate Bill 6419, *An Act Concerning Time Shares*.

With regard to Section 23 of the bill, the Judicial Branch respectfully notes that by allowing a plaintiff to commence an action against multiple defendants, and then requiring that the counts be severed for trial when a defense or counterclaim is interposed, the workload of an already over-burdened court clerk's office would be greatly increased. Even in instances where a defense or counterclaim is not filed, an increased burden on the clerk exists because the clerk would still have to calculate the debt and fees for each defendant as there would not be one judgment against all defendants.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony.